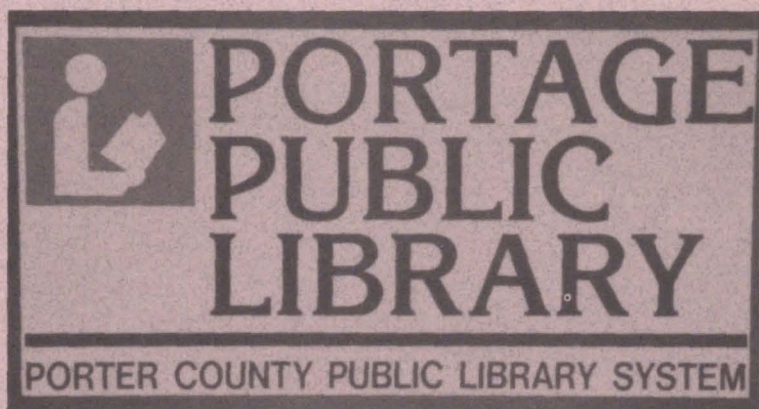


FOR REFERENCE ONLY

INDIANA COLLECTION

*Portage*



**2665 Irving Street  
Portage, Indiana 46368  
(219) 763-1508  
Fax (219) 762-0101**

*"Designed to Expand and Enrich the Lives of All Citizens"*



## YESTERDAY . . . TODAY . . .

Welcome to the Portage Public Library. This library has a proud heritage and has been a vital part of the community for the past thirty-two years. Begun as a bookmobile stop in 1964, by the Valparaiso Public Library, a building in the Portage Mall was rented in 1970 to house the library. The library opened on September 26, 1970 with a collection of 2,000 volumes. Mrs. Genevieve Schaffer was the first Head Librarian, and served until November 1979.

The Youth Department opened in March 1971 with Jo Ann Lewis as Children's Librarian.

The Portage Library soon outgrew its facilities in the rented building. By 1976, the collection had expanded to over 14,000 volumes.

On January 12, 1979, ground was broken for the new 10,000 square foot Lois Street facility. The new library opened to the public on April 16, 1980, with Miss Patrice Pulles as Head Librarian. Dedication of the library took place on May 18, 1980. Total cost of the building and furnishings was \$980,441.00.



As the community continued to grow and expand the Library Board was faced with new and challenging needs. In 1988 the Board hired a consultant firm to conduct a feasibility study of all facilities, services, and automation for the county library system. As a result of the study, on September 15, 1992, the Board hired an architectural firm to design new facilities for Kouts and South Haven, and major additions and renovations to the Hebron, Portage, and Valparaiso buildings. Bonds for the \$14.9 million project were approved on December 20, 1993 by the Indiana State Tax Commissioners and sold on May 1, 1994 to Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc.

Ground was broken on September 24, 1994 for the construction of the new Portage Public Library on Irving Street. The first phase of the new \$3.6 million dollar facility opened to the public on December 11, 1995 and the completed building opened on May 28, 1996.



*The library is not a shrine for the worship of books. It is not a temple where literary incense must be burned or where one's devotion to the bound book is expressed in ritual. A library, to modify the famous metaphor of Socrates, should be the delivery room for the birth of ideas – a place where history comes to life.*

– Norman Cousins

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Library Board of Trustees is composed of seven members. Two appointed by the county council, two by the county commissioners, two by the Valparaiso School Board, and one by the school board presidents of the remaining school corporations in Porter County. No appointees receive pay for serving on the Library Board.

Serving on the current Board of Trustees are:

Katharine Antommara\*\*

C. Raymond Carlson

Judith Ann Hanson\*\*

Mary Henrichs

Darl Jarnecke

Myrna McMurtry

Michael Scott

Mary Bradford\*

Karen Evans\*

Thomas Witzman\*

\*former Trustee involved with planning the new facility

\*\*newly appointed Trustee

The Porter County Public Library Board of Trustees and the library staff are grateful for the community and county support that made possible this new building.

We urge the residents of the Portage area and Porter County to make full use of the new facility. Only in this way can its full potential for public service be realized.

Myrna McMurtry, President

*All that mankind has done, thought, gained, or been: It is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books.*

-- Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881)





## CIRCULATION AREA

The Circulation Desk is where all library materials are checked in and checked out and where all materials should be returned. Questions regarding fines, reserving material, or renewing materials should be directed here. This is also the place to sign up for a library card.

*A good book is not a luxury, it is one of the necessities of life.*

— Beecher



## REFERENCE AREA

This area contains the Reference Collection used for research and study. The Information Desk here is the place to come for assistance in using the library collection and to obtain help in answering your questions. Various CD-ROM products are available in this area to assist in your research needs as well as the periodical collection – both current and backfiles. Also available are typewriters, computers, and study rooms for the public to use.

*Reading is to the mind, what exercise is to the body.*

– Joseph Addison (1672-1719)



*A good book is the best of friends. The same today and forever!*  
– Martin Farquhar Tupper (1810-1889)



## YOUNG ADULT AREA

This area houses library materials specifically geared to the junior and senior high school students. Consisting mainly of popular fiction and periodicals, it provides a unique space for this age group to read, study, and enjoy the library.

*And for the few, good luck betide them  
Who cherish books for what's inside them  
Use judgment rare and ripe;  
Consider subject, reading time,  
And if the reader's past his prime,  
Consider size of type!*

– Arthur Otis



## AUDIO-VISUAL AREA

Located south of the Circulation desk, the Audio-Visual department offers a variety of video cassettes, audio cassettes, books-via-tape, filmstrips, compact discs, and framed art that may be checked out.

Listening and viewing carrels are a new and exciting feature of this area.



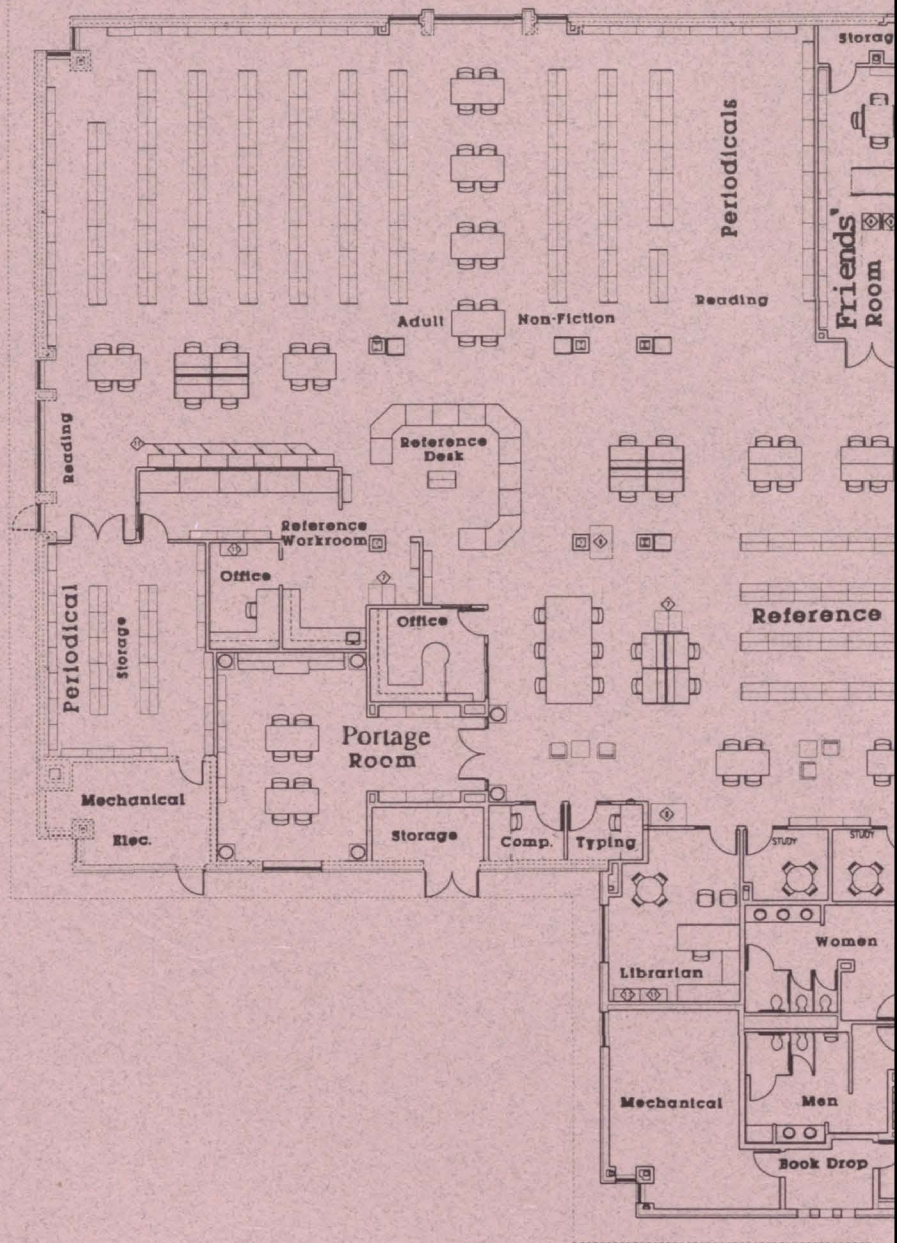


## MEETING ROOM

Designed for maximum use by a variety of groups, the meeting room will be used both for library programs and community organizations, while the library is open. The room seats up to 150 persons and can be divided into two smaller rooms by the use of a moveable automatic partition.

The rooms are equipped with motion picture screens, marker boards, lecterns, and various audio-visual equipment (including a ceiling mounted video projector). A kitchenette is also available adjacent to this room for the serving of light refreshments.

A Conference Room is available for smaller groups to use, as well as several study rooms for individuals or groups of up to four people.

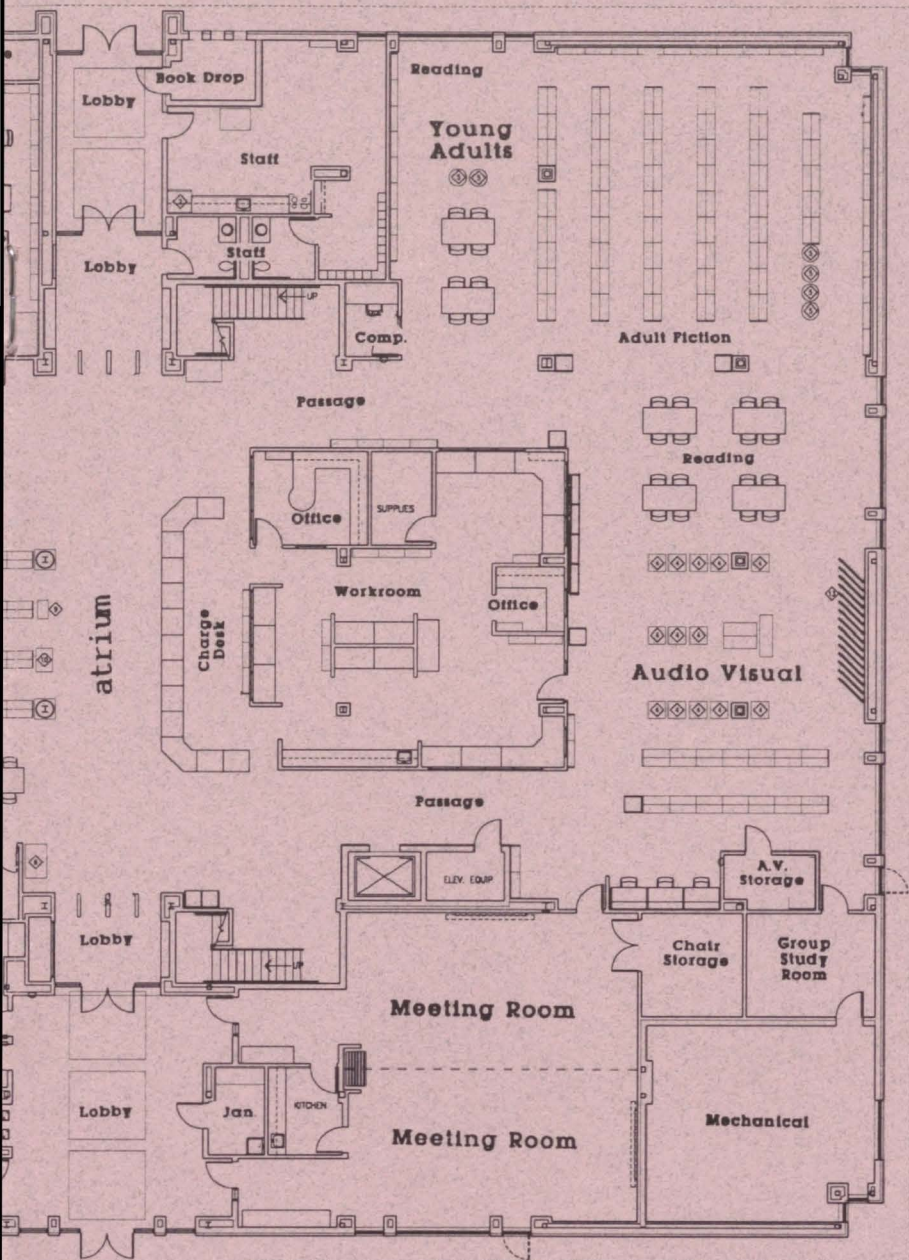


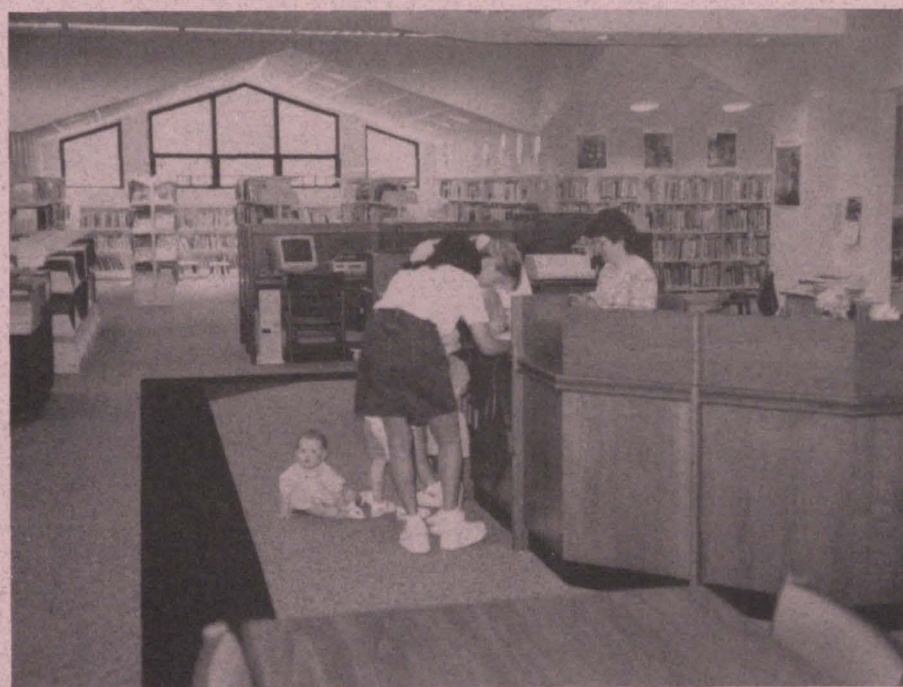
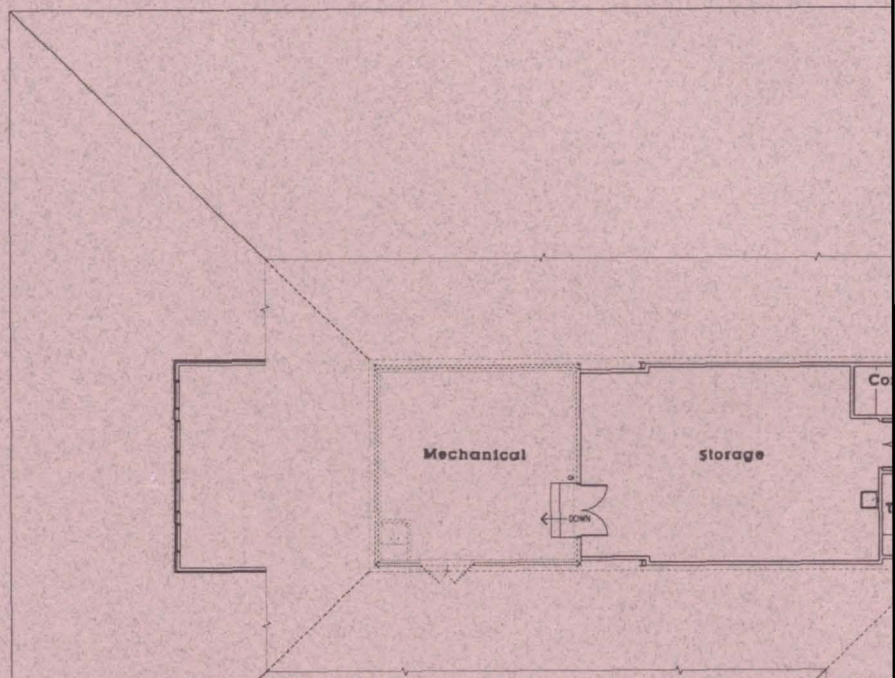
## PORTAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAIN LEVEL FLOOR PLAN





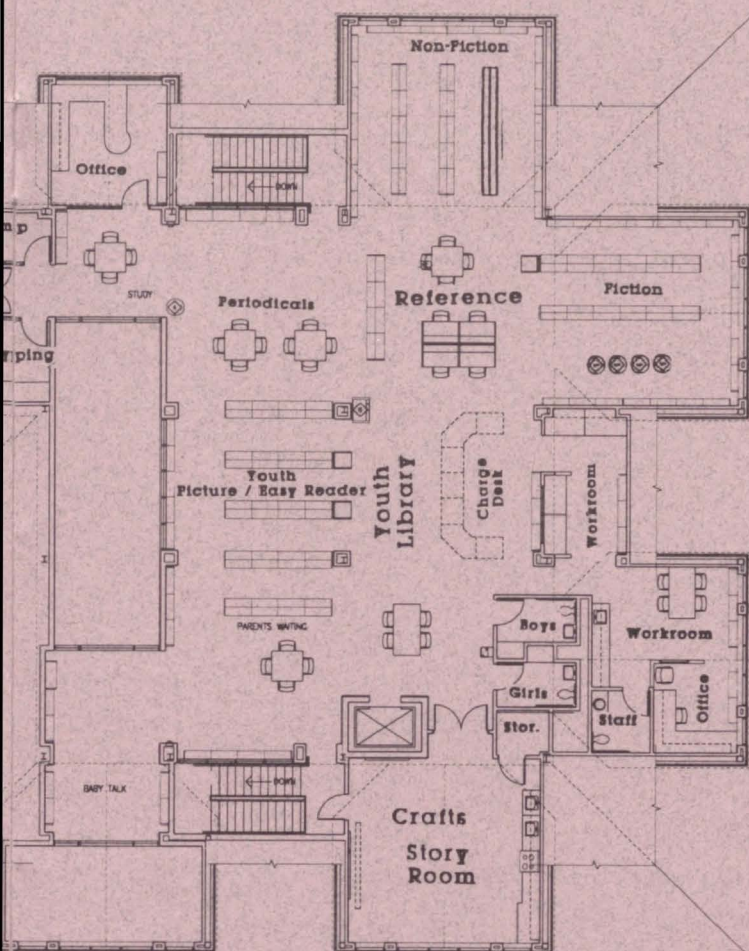




**UPPER LEVEL FLOOR PLAN**

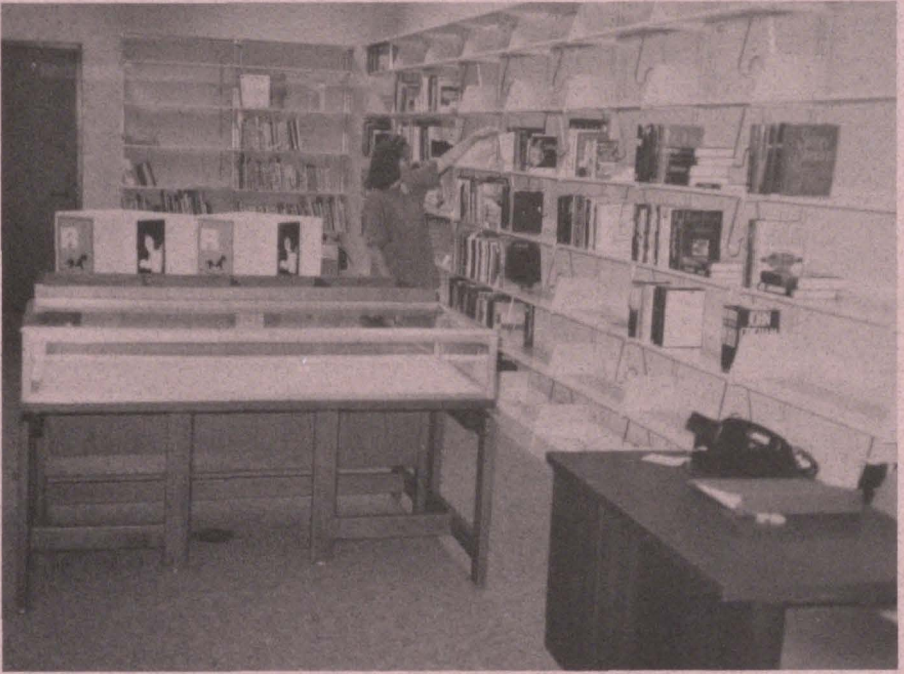






## YOUTH SERVICES AREA

Items for children of all ages can be found in the Youth Services Department. Story hours, summer reading programs, and the "Baby Talk" program are just some of the activities originating in this department. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in helping their children select materials. Scaled down furniture and bright colors make this an inviting area for the youth. CD-Rom products and computer/typing rooms are also available.



## FRIENDS' SALE ROOM

The Friends of the Library manage this room staffed by volunteers and open to the public selected hours each week. Donated used books, magazines, framed art, cassettes, records, videos, and other audio-visual items are available for purchase.

Proceeds from the sales go to the Friends organization, who in turn use the funds to support projects and purchases for the respective libraries in the System.

*"Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man."*

– Francis Bacon (1561-1626)



# CENTRAL ATRIUM

The new entrance to the Portage Library has been moved to Irving Street and a large two story atrium dissects the building. This atrium allows natural light to penetrate through the building. Housed in the atrium one will find public display and notice areas, copy machine and the library's material theft detection system. Large wooded columns divide the older section of the building from the new addition.

At the west outside entrance to the atrium is a large promenade and covered car portico. The east end of the atrium serves as a secondary entrance from Lois Street. Book and Audio-visual return slots are located at each entrance, open 24 hours.





## HISTORY ROOM

Works of a historical nature dealing with Indiana and particularly the Portage area are maintained in the Portage Room. Works by Indiana authors and local historical archives may be housed here as well.

Items of local historical interest may be on display from time-to-time.

*A good book is the precious lifeblood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life.*

— John Milton (1608-1674)



*The love of learning, the sequestered nooks, and all the sweet serenity of books.*

-- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)



## LOUNGE SEATING AREAS

Lounge chairs and tables provide a relaxed atmosphere for reading current issues of magazines and newspapers. Lounge seating is also located in other areas of the building for those who just like to sit and read. The perfect place to curl up with a book!

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Architect	The InterDesign Group
Construction Manager	Ira C. Mast & Son
Interior Design	Eden Associates, Inc.
Furniture/Equipment	The FCS Group; Infusion; Robbins Interiors; The Worden Company
Landscaping	Cherry Creek Nursery
Bond Counsel	Ice Miller Donadio & Ryan
Financial Advisor	H. J. Umbaugh & Associates
Local Attorney	James S. Bozik
Engineering	Cole Associates; Alt and Witzig
Movers	Library Movers of America

## Contractors:

Artic Engineering	Circle 'R' Electrical
Circle 'R' Mechanical	Fluid Dynamics, Inc.
Global Fire Protection	Gough Inc.
Hohner Excavating	Hunter Corporation
INSULCO	Interior Finishes
Konet Creative Windows	Precision Elevator
Rieth-Riley	Stan's Painting
The Lazzaro Companies	

A special "Thank You" to the Portage Rotary Club for their generous financial support and the Portage Township Schools for the loan of the school buses for use in our summer 'Ride & Read' program!

I sincerely thank all the members of the Portage community who supported the Library Board and staff throughout this project and helped make this fine library possible!

Donald C. Johnson  
*Library Director*



# STAFF:

## PORTER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

(Administration, Department Heads)

Donald C. Johnson	Library Director
James D. Cline	Assistant Director
Betty Woodyard	Administrative Assistant
Terri Nagel	Administrative Secretary
Judith Wilkin	Automation Specialist
Karrie Stewart	Bookmobile Services
Larry Clark	Genealogy
Kay Mussman	Graphic Design
Eric Egolf	Maintenance
Evelyn Wilson	Technical Services

## PORTAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Nancy Clark	Branch Librarian
Irlene Holley	Head of Reference Services
Estela Klenk	Reference Services
Phyllis Mahoney	Reference Services
Betty Hoopingarner	Reference Services
Kathy Spetz	Head of Circulation Services
Linda Belcher	Circulation Services
Carolyn Strickland	Circulation Services
Pamela Butler	Circulation Services
Sandie Hughes	Circulation Services
Pat Huisinga	Circulation Services
Lynette Christenson	Youth Services Librarian
Cissy Dillard	Youth Services
Kim Drummond	Youth Services
Judy Johnston	Youth Services

A special "Thank You" to the



Friends of the  
Porter County Public Library

for serving refreshments and their generous gift to the library.

## BUILDING DATA:

### COST:

Site Cost .....	\$	owned
Building Cost .....	3,081,944.10	
Equipment and Furniture .....	288,713.60	
Landscaping .....	16,650.00	
Total Project Cost .....	\$ 3,387,307.70	

### FINANCED BY:

General Obligation Bond .....	\$14,950,000.00
<i>(Five Buildings &amp; Renovations)</i>	
Library Improvement Funds .....	327,000.00
Projected Interest Earnings .....	500,000.00

### SIZE:

Total Gross Area .....	33,560 sq. ft.
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### CAPACITY:

Public Seating .....	145
Meeting Room .....	150
Story Hour/Craft Room .....	40
Conference Room .....	12
Lounge Areas .....	38
Total Seating .....	385
Print & Nonprint Capacity .....	175,000
Parking: Public .....	60
Staff .....	20
Total Parking .....	80

## PORTER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

103 Jefferson Street • Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

LIBRARIES IN HEBRON, KOUTS, PORTAGE,  
SOUTH HAVEN, VALPARAISO,  
and PORTER COUNTY BOOKMOBILE